

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:686
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2001
INDIA'S ROLE IN FIGHTING TERRORISM
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India being the prime mover of the peace in the world took initiative to mobilize the third world countries through the platform of non-aligned movement to oppose terrorism as a whole as well as to defuse tension of escalating any war in any part of the world by the big powers in the world; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH)

(a) & (b) As a victim of Terrorism for over two decades, India has consistently stressed that combating Terrorism has to be given a high priority in the global agenda. The tragic events of September 11 have brought a heightened awareness and urgency in the fight against Terrorism. In our interactions, particularly with developing countries and the Non-Aligned Movement, we have emphasised that Terrorism is a global menace which cannot be compartmentalised and that the fight against it has to go beyond the immediate and has to be comprehensive, global and sustained.

India has also conveyed that there can be no justification for acts of Terrorism : religious, ethnic, ideological or any other. The international measures to counter Terrorism should encompass not only the perpetrators of terrorist acts, but also those who incite, support, finance or extend safe havens to terrorists.

India has welcomed international efforts including efforts under the UN to counter Terrorism. In this framework, India has welcomed the Security Council Resolution 1373 of September 28. India is also piloting a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) to strengthen the legal framework in countering Terrorism. Discussions on CCIT are continuing at the United Nations. During the UN General Assembly, the Prime Minister forcefully conveyed India's point of view, including our concerns on the cross border aspects of Terrorism, in his address to the UNGA on November 10.

Many countries with whom we had discussions, share India's views and concerns.